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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION
BIOGRAPHIC REPORT

Dochev

NAME DOCHEV, Ivan

CASE No.
DATE 21 April 1952

NATIONALITY Bulgarian

BIRTHDATE
BIRTHPLACE

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODSEXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

PRESENT POSITION Member of central committee
of Bulgarian National (anti-Communist)Front

RACE White
SEX Male
MARITAL STATUS
NAME OF SPOUSE

LOCATION Toronto, Ontario, Canada

CHILDREN

GEN. OCCUPATION Refugee leader

RELIGION

EDUCATION

POLITICAL AFFILIATION

LANGUAGES

ATTITUDE TOWARDS: U.S.

HONORS

U.S.S.R.

CAREER:

WW II
1944

Chief of pro-Nazi Legion Brannik in Bulgaria.
Head of Dept. for Oral and Practical Propaganda,
National Propaganda Directorate.
Nominated head of Bulgarian Anti-Bolshevistic Union,
Heidelberg.
Planned to unite all nationalistic Bulgarian organizations
into United Bulgarian Nationalistic Front, Heidelberg.
Member of central committee of Bulgarian National
(anti-Communist) Front in exile;
Member, Governing Council; and member, Executive Committee,
Bulgarian National Front, Munich, November.

REMARKS:

Dr. Ivan DOCHEV, author of A New Danger for World's Peace-Red Bulgaria, is described in his own book as one of the best known young Bulgarian politicians with a reputation of being a staunch enemy of Communism. Sentenced to death by the Communist government which was established in Bulgaria after September 1944, he was successful in saving his life by contriving to emigrate before falling into the hands of the red militia. Residing abroad since 1944, he has continued his fight against Communism as an active member in the anti-Communist front of the Bulgarian national emigrants. 1/

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REMARKS: (continued)

In his book Dochev describes the growth of Communism in Bulgaria during the past thirty years. He believes that Bulgaria, because of the strong anti-Communist tendencies among its people and because of its strategic position on the globe could and should be separated from the Soviet sphere of influence. The U.S. should take the lead in bringing about this separation, thus breaking Russia's hold on the Balkans. This, according to Dochev, might prevent a third World War. 2/

According to report, Dochev publishes a four-page, fortnightly paper, Bulgarski Naroden Glas, which is printed in a Ukrainian press in Toronto. There is no publisher other than Dochev, the editor. It claims to be a paper for all of the Bulgarian "emigration", which actually means both refugees and immigrants. Dochev and his paper are described as ultra-nationalist, chauvinist, and royalist. Probably for this reason, Dochev criticized the inclusion of Greece and Turkey within the Atlantic Pact framework.

Dochev's former organization, the Legion (Legionaires) was a Nazi organization which presumably comes under the terms of the McCarran Act. It is believed that Dochev was recently refused a visa to visit the United States. In Germany, he was reported to be a disrupting element among Bulgarian emigres. 3/

When Dochev founded the Bulgarian resistance organization "Anti-Bolshevistic Union", he did so primarily to further his ultimate aim of uniting all Bulgarian refugees in Western Europe into an anti-Communist bloc under his leadership. Although Dochev, in contact with American intelligence agencies following the end of hostilities in 1945, alleged to be primarily motivated by strong nationalistic feelings, it was the opinion of one source that he felt slighted at being ignored as an unofficial representative of a considerable portion of exiled Bulgarians and by Dr. Georgi Dimitrov, leader of the "Bulgarian Liberation Movement". Dochev was allegedly considered acceptable to Dimitrov as a member of the European Chapter of the Bulgarian Liberation Movement in Emigration but not as a representative of a Bulgarian faction labelled by Dimitrov as "Fascist".

Inasmuch as the total population of refugee Bulgarians in the Western Zones of Germany and Austria did not exceed 2,000 persons, and in Dochev's estimation, not more than 150 Bulgarians attached themselves to Dimitrov's organization, Dochev proceeded to lay the groundwork for an overall organization composed of all unorganized Bulgarian groups to be governed by a coalition board. The first step in this direction was to establish himself as the head of an anti-Communist group of so-called intellectuals, who, by capitalizing on their contacts with the occupation authorities and the respect their names once commanded in Bulgaria, would gain him the necessary publicity for the second step, namely to maneuver himself into the top position of a representative "Bulgarians-in-exile" organization. On 17 Oct. 1948, Dochev accomplished his primary mission of founding a splinter group by calling a meeting in Heidelberg, Germany of friends and associates, who in the past had supplied him with intelligence items, which he in turn passed on to American intelligence agencies. As a result of this meeting, Dochev was nominated head of the "Bulgarian anti-Bolshevistic Union". 4/

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SOURCES:

- 1/ A New Danger for World's Peace-Red Bulgaria, Dr. Ivan Docheff.
- 2/ CIA Library Files, 18 April 1952, Unclassified.
- 3/ State memorandum, 21 Nov. 1951, Restricted.
- 4/ USFA Special Biweekly Report #84, 4 Feb. 1949, Secret.

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